



50th Wedding Anniversary

Mary and Austin Tufford, formerly of Milton but now living in Meaford (near Owen Sound), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with friends and family at Holy Rosary Parish Hall on Saturday. It is interesting to note Mr. and Mrs. Tufford are National Hockey League senior referee Bruce Hood's in-laws.

Life continues at near closed home

By HELEN MURRAY
Special to the Champion
Life is back to normal at the D and G Group Home on Highway 7 just south of Acton following eight months of controversy and allegations.

The home, owned and operated by David Stanley of Milton was practically closed from January until July after Ministry of Community and Social Services took wards out of the establishment on the grounds they were abused and neglected. Charges were laid against Stanley, but later dropped after senior ministry officials stepped in. The home was set up to house hard to handle teenagers.

Stanley contended white staff were afraid of the Indian teenagers, and ignorant of their customs and rights. Most of the wards were Indian or Metis, but a few white children were placed there.

The controversy started in January when the police removed a 16-year-old resident forcefully and transferred him to a home in Hamilton against his will. Several other youths were also taken from the home, kicking and screaming, some of whom ran away from their next home.

In an interview this week, Stanley said it would take years before the financial repercussions of the past

half a year are settled. By February the home had only one teen in it, yet staff pay had to be continued and the mortgage and other obligations had to be met. Income was virtually zero, he said. He is paid by the government per child. So far, no one has offered to reimburse him for the lost revenue.

However, there are now six teenagers, 13 years to 15 in the home, all Indian, in what the provincial government now recognizes as a "special program." D and G Group Home received two important exemptions, allowing them to have an entirely Indian staff and residents.

"It is a completely different atmosphere," Stanley pointed out. Everyone is comfortable, including staff and residents, and there are no problems or threats hanging over their heads."

Stanley commends the senior ministry staff for recognizing the special needs of the home and he appreciated the support from the various Indian agencies during the closure threats.

Last January Stanley had a staff of 10. Now, eight months later, he has six employees, some of who are new, and some who stayed through the tough winter. All the children are new to the program.

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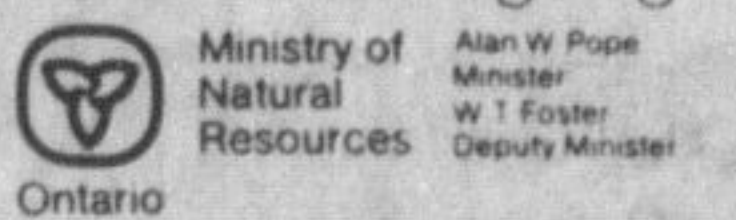


At the Ministry of Natural Resources, we have to be a lot of things to a lot of people. That's why we want to hear your ideas.

We've compiled draft district land use strategies which recommend the many ways Southern Ontario's natural resources ought to be managed. And with forests, fish, wildlife, mineral resources, provincial parks, marshes, recreational areas,

waterfronts, and lots of dry land to consider, that can be a pretty wide open area.

So we want you to tell us what you think. To make it easier, we're sponsoring a series of Open Houses, in districts all across Southern Ontario, giving you the chance to come out and tell us how you feel about what we have in mind.



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CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION, TO CONFIRM DATES, TIMES AND ADDRESSES OF OPEN HOUSES, OR IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND AN OPEN HOUSE BUT WISH TO COMMENT ON DISTRICT LAND USE STRATEGIES, OPEN HOUSES TO BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

COMMUNITY	LOCATION	DATE	TIME
Hamilton	Central Branch, Hamilton Public Library	Aug. 19/82	3:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Milton	Milton Public Library	Aug. 24/82	3:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

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